

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W
-----074361 180323Z /75

R 172357Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4337
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
ALL USCONS MEXICO (BY POUCHL

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 13778

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MX, IT
SUBJECT: AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA DESIGNATED NEW MEXICAN
AMBASSADOR TO ITALY

1. LICENCIADO AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA RECENTLY RESIGNED
HIS POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE GRAND COMMISSION OF THE
MEXICAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES (EQUIVALENT TO HOUSE SPEAKER)
"TO ENTER THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE". HE HAS NOW BEEN DESIG-
NATED NEW MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO ITALY BY PRESIDENT JOSE
LOPEZ PORTILLO IN SUBSTITUTION OF LIC. FAUSTO ZAPATA
LOREDO.

2. SEE BIO DATA SENT ON LIC. GOMEZ VILLANUEVA ON JANUARY
14, 1975 (MEXICO 0401) UPON HIS DESIGNATION AS SECRETARY
OF AGRARIAN REFORM. EMBASSY POUCHING COPY TO ROME, ALONG
WITH BIO HANDBOOK REPORT OF NOV 12, 1976.

3. DURING HIS TOUR AS DEPUTY LIC. GOMEZ VILLANUEVA ORGA-
NIZED AND DIRECTED THE MEETINGS OF LATIN AMERICAN AND
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MEXICO CITY
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IN JULY.

4. RECENT PRESS STORIES HAVE IMPLIED HIS INVOLVEMENT IN
THE FINANCIAL FRAUD OF THE "BAHIA DE BANDERAS" TRUST,
ALTHOUGH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC EXONERATED
HIM OF ANY PART IN THIS SCANDAL. FOR BACKGROUND ON
GOMEZ VILLANUEVA'S FALL FROM DOMESTIC POWER, SEE MEXICO

13386 AUG 10, INFO ROME.

5. ADDITIONAL BIO INFORMATION: LIC. GOMEZ VILLANUEVA AND HIS WIFE, MARIA GUADALUPE, KNOWN AS LUPITA, CELEBRATED THEIR TWENTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN THE SPRING OF 1977. THEY HAVE THREE CHILDREN: A BOY ABOUT 19, A GIRL ABOUT 13, AND A YOUNGER BOY ABOUT 6 OR 7 YEARS OLD. GV HAS AN EGO OF MONUMENTAL SIZE AND A PUBLIC RELATIONS CRAVING TO MATCH. SEVERAL ROOMS IN HIS MEXICO CITY HOME HAVE THEIR WALLS COVERED WITH HIS OWN PHOTOS. HE PROBABLY UNDERSTANDS SOME ENGLISH, BUT COMMUNICATES WITH AMERICAN VISITORS (E.G., CONTACTS AT MEXICAN-US PARLIAMENTARY MEETINGS) THROUGH AN INTERPRETER.

6. FAUSTO ZAPATA HAS BEEN PLACED "AT THE DISPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE". SEVERAL SOURCES HAVE TOLD US THAT ZAPATA, WHO IS EXTREMELY CLOSE TO FORMER PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, ACTED IN SOME WAY FOR ECHEVERRIA IN THE RESIGNATION OF AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN DIAZ ORDAZ, AND THAT, WITH THE DELICIOUS IRONY CHARACTERIZING MEXICAN POLITICS, THE GOM DECIDED TO REPLACE ZAPATA WITH GOMEZ. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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